(b) The proposed oceanarium will be set up at Miramar Beach in Goa.

(c) Yes, financial and expert help for these projects is being obtained from a foreign country;

(d) Through a Global Tender, a bid had been received from an Indian Company in collaboration with an Australian partner for constructing the Oceanarium on Build, Own, Operate and Maintain (BOOM) basis with 100% investment by them.

(e) Central Government has provided technical assistance in generating specifications and inviting proposals through a global tender. The Government of Goa is providing land on lease basis for the establishment of Oceanarium with appropriate annual returns.

(f) The estimated cost of establishment of Oceanarium at Goa is Rs. 68 crores.

Mega City Scheme

852. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal from the Gujarat Government for inclusion of Ahmedabad under Mega City Scheme is lying pending; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this retgard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. A proposal for inclusion of Ahmedabad under the Mega City Scheme was earlier received from Government of Gujarat. However, as the basic eligibility criterion for the selection of cities under the Mega City Scheme in the population of 4.00 million as per 1991 Census and the population of Ahmedabad Urban Agglomeration was 3.31 million at the 1991 Census, it was not possible to consider the inclusion of city of Ahmedabad in the Mega City Scheme. The position was communicated to the State Government.

LPG Consumers

853. SHRI SHANTILAL :
PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has recently launched Emergency Service Cell (ESC) at Ahmedabad in order to provide safety to its LPG Conusmers;

(b) if so, the details of the service and whether ESC is proposed to be extended to other parts of the State by IOC; and

(c) whether the Government proposed to issue directives to other Oil Companies also to provide similar service to their LPG customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir. However, M/s. BPC is operating two Emergency Service Cells (ESC) at Ahmedabad on Industry basis.

(b) IOC is operating ESC at the following places in the State of Gujarat as on 1.10.96 :

Bhavnagar.

Palitana.

Amreli.

Doraji.

Manvadar.

Keshod.

The ESC is operated only to take care of leakage complaints of customers during non-working hours of the distributorships i.e. on working days after the closing hours of the distributorships till next day morning when the distributorships reopen; and on Sundays and Holidays on 24 hours basis.

(c) All the three PSU Oil marketing Companies viz. IOC, BPC and HPC have already set up Emergency Service Cells in all Metros/Major towns.

Rural Development Programmes

854. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to discontinue some Rural Development Programmes launched during 8th plan;

(b) if so, the Rural Development Programmes under implementation during 8th plan;

(c) the programmes that are likely to be discontinued in the 9th plan; and

(d) the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d). The rural development programmes being implemented by the Government during the Eighth Plan are listed in the Statement.

The Government has not taken a final decision on whether to discontinue any ongoing rural development programme in the Ninth Plan.

STATEMENT

Rural Development Programmes

1. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana
2. Employment Assurance Sscheme
3. Indira Awaas Yojana
4. Million Wells Scheme
5. Rural Housing*
6. Integrated Rural Development Programme
7. Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment
8. Drought Prone Area Programme
9. Desert Development Programme
10. Rural Water Supply Programme
11. Rural Sanitation
12. Strengthening of State Training Centre
13. Strengthening of Extension Training Centre
14. Grants-in-aid to Institute for Agrarian Studies and Computerisation of Land Records
15. Strengthening of Revenue Machinery and Updating of Land Records
16. Roads in Special Problem Areas
17. National Social Assistance Programme
18. Grants to National Institute of Rural Development
19. Assistance to Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology
20. Organisation of Training Courses, Seminars and Workshops
21. Assistance to Assignees of Ceiling Surplus Land**
22. National Commission on Revitalisation of Revenue Administration
23. Organisation of Rural Poor
24. Communication Cell
25. Promotion of Voluntary Scheme
26. Organisation of Beneficiaries
27. Panchayat Development and Training
28. Agricultural Marketing
29. Building for A.A. R.R.O.
30. Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas

* Rural Housing is merged with Indira Awaas Yojana

** Transferred to the State Governments.

Sales of Kendriya Bhandar

855. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the annual sales of the Kendriya Bhandar during the preceding three years including 1996 so far;

(b) upto which year the accounts of the Kendriya Bhandar have been audited: and

(c) the details of the shortcomings/irregularities noticed in their accounts by the auditors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Annual Sales of the Kendriya Bhandar during the last three years were as follows :

Year	Sales figures (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	10,002.83
1994-95	11,758.01
1995-96	13,888.18

Information for the period from April, 1996 onwards is not available as the accounts will be finalised on close of the current financial year.

(b) The accounts have been audited upto the year 1995-96.

(c) Except for some minor observations about operations and maintenance of accounts, no material shortcomings or irregularities have been noticed by the auditors in their reports and audited Annual Accounts.

Sharad Pawar Committee

856. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has ordered a full-fledged review of the power sector;

(b) whether the three year old Sharad Pawar Committee report which had called for far reaching changes in the electricity sector is being reconsidered by the Planning Commission;

(c) if so, whether the Planning Commission has accepted the recommendations of the Sharad Pawar Committee report; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Planning Commission to direct the Power Ministry to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Ninth Plan exercise will include in-depth review of Power Sector.